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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

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Concern over U.S.military aid

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, expressed deep concern about the United States' decision to supply sophisticated military wares including the deep stricking F-16 aircraft to Pakistan.

Addressing a press conference Mrs. Gandhi said that although India conceded the fact every nation had the right to acquire arms to defend itself, acquisition of arms must be for legitimate and justified needs.

The Prime Minister said F-16 represented the induction into this region of a class of aircraft a generation ahead of anything operating with other air forces of the area. The other planes were all of the late 1960 or early 70 technology and operational capability. In the offensive role, it could go much deeper and carry bigger bomb loads. The offensive strike capability of even one such aircraft was at least three times that of Mig. 21. "The Pakistan Air Force, even without the F-16 already has and will continue to have for some years, a deep strike force three times the size of our own."

In her opening statement at the press conference, Mrs. Gandhi observed: "The sub-continent is being willy-nilly pushed into an arms race, increasing financial burden on our own people at a time when our limited resources should have been entirely used for the needs of our people and to make up for lost time in technological and scientific progress."

She wanted the people of Pakistan to know that "we wish them well and we want to live in peace with them. Our countries face similar economic problems and we would bend our energies towards development which can be possible only if there is tranquility and mutual trust. This is the message I sent to President Zia."

About the relations with its neighbours Mrs. Gandhi said: "We believe in strengthening friendship with all so as to improve the climate for peace."

A questioner asked whether India would change its present nuclear policy if Pakistan went in for nuclear weapons program she said: "We do not believe in the deterent theory. I do not know how it will help if we also make nuclear weapons."

India had no nuclear weapons program and had declared time and again that nuclear energy would be used for peaceful purposes of economic development. It was being used for generation of power

Fifth Atomic Plant

The Prime Minister announced the government's decision to locate the country's fifth atomic power plant in Kokarpara near Surat in Gujarat.

She spoke of further progress towards self-reliance and pointed out that the second unit of the Rajasthan atomic power station was in operation. The Kalpakam and Narora projects were in an advanced stage. Narora's import content was as low as 9 per cent.

She said the Tarapur atomic power station would be kept going even if the United States terminated its agreement on the supply of enriched uranium to the country.

The Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, addressing a Press Conference in New Delhi

French Mirage

Replying to questions the Prime Minister disclosed that India was negotiating with France for the purchase of Mirage-2000 futuristic aircraft for its air force.

In reply to another question she said that India would honour its commitment on the Jaguar deal with the British Aerospace.

U.S. behind Khalistan

New Delhi: The Government of India has denied the allegations by Indian "refugees," mostly belonging to the Sikh community, seeking immigration to Canada that they were "victims of religious and social vendetta" in India.

Reacting to a report originating from Ottawa that hundreds of Indians have been landing in Canada in recent months claiming that they were refugees with intent to seek immigration, a government statement said that the question of any Indian being persecuted did not arise. The claim of those persons that they are political refugees was baseless and unacceptable to the Government of India.

A Government spokesman said that these persons had found some loophole in the Canadian immigration laws which might facilitate their migration to Canada by pretending that they were political refugees. Their seeking immigration on political grounds has dubious motivations.

The Indian government has rejected their allegation and informed the Canadian government accordingly.

The report on Indian "refugee" influx in Canada said that the Indians, most of them Sikhs, according to Canadian authorities, land at international airports in Toronto and Vancouver, file immediately the refugee status on the grounds that they are being subjected to various forms of persecution in India. Some of them have claimed that they are "victims of religious and social vendetta" and being members of the separatist Khalistan movement, fear for their lives.

Khalistan

Meanwhile a report in a Bombay weekly states that the Khalistan movement is guided and financed by the CIA through Pakistan, the US objective being destabilisation of the Punjab, the sword-arm of India.

Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh told newsmen in Delhi on his return from Britain that the biggest world power was behind the Khalistan movement.

The movement is reported to have got a fillip after the 54th All India Sikh Educational Conference in Chandigarh in March last. Ganga Singh Dhillon, a US citizen, who presided over the conference, called upon the Sikh community to declare itself a nation, seek a PLO-type status in the United Nations and fight for separate nation-state. Dal Khalsa, the extremist youth wing of the Akali Party, promptly electrified the atmosphere by raising the slogan of Khalistan, says the report. Mr. Dhillon is also reported to have intimate connection with President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan.

Other leaders with Mr. Dhillon are Dr. Jagjit Singh, a former minister in the Akali Ministry in the sixties; Sukhinder Singh, a former minister in the Badal cabinet and SGPC President Mr. G.S. Tohra.

The Prime Minister is reportedly concerned with the Khalistan movement. The replacement of Darbara Singh as the PCC President is reportedly with the intention to project the Congress (I) to fight the movement politically.

At an Akali-sponsored World Sikh Convention at Amritsar in July, Longowal has given a call for "Dharam Yudh." An ultimatum has been given to the Central Government till August 31.

Addressing a Sikh gathering organised by the Delhi Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee at her residence, Mrs. Gandhi indirectly referred to the demand for Khalistan and said a small country could not progress in the present-day world and pointed out to the small nations in the neighbourhood. She commented the valour and patriotism of the Sikh community and asked them to work hard to make the country strong.

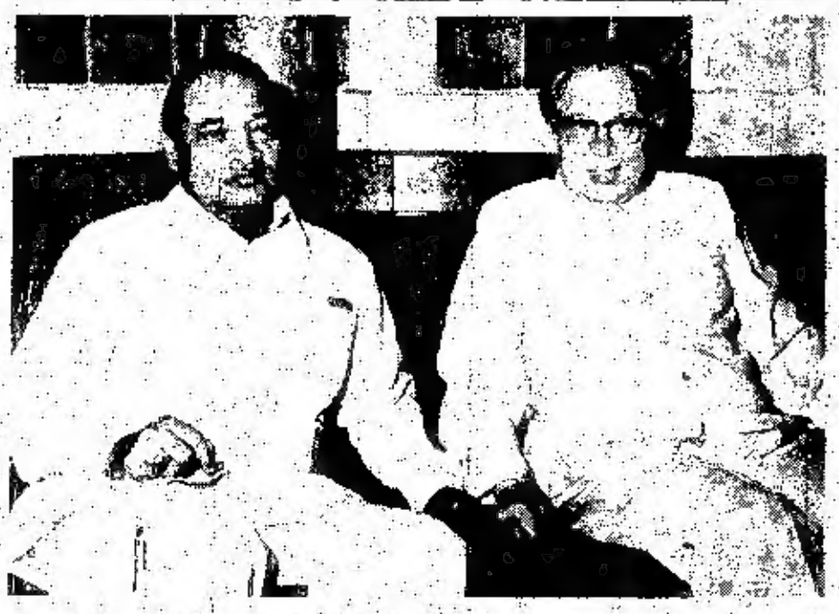
Colour TV in TVM

New Delhi, [UNI] - The first Indian colour television station will be commissioned at Trivandrum (Kerala) by the end of 1983 or early 1984. The existing black-and-white stations in the country are likely to be changed into colour at the cost of 1.25 million dollars.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has decided to go in for colour television transmission for all new stations to be established in the country.

In the immediate context, India will purchase four outdoor broadcasting vans for televising in colour the ninth Asian Games to be held in 1982. These vans would provide the nucleus for the eventual introduction of colour TV in the country.

The vans will be used for producing colour programs for recording on video tapes or for transmission.



Indian External Affairs Minister, J.V. Narasimha Rao [left] with the Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister, Huang Hua, during their talks in New Delhi in June, 1981.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the postal strike we were unable to bring out the July and August issues of the paper.

We hope you missed us.

Publisher.

Talkie celebrates jubilee

New Delhi, [UNI] - The First Indian talkie, "Alam Ara," directed by Ardeshir Irani, was screened on March 14, 1931 in Bombay. This was almost three and a half years after Hollywood introduced the spoken word. "Wait a minute, wait a minute" in Al Jonson's film "The Jazz Singer."

While "The Jazz Singer" was a movie punctuated with occasional spoken words, "Alam Ara" was a full-fledged talkie. Ironically, no print of this film is available in India.

Almost 38 days before the release of this film in Bombay, two short films, one of them featuring the singer Munnibai, and the other having folk songs from the eastern state of West Bengal, was also screened in Bombay. Produced by Madan Theatres, the film was a success. Soon after this, they made a phenominally successful talkie "Shirin Farhad" and "Laila Majnu."

Indian talkie had on an average 12 songs, and some of the talkies like "Shakuntla" had as many as 41. Indian movies, from the beginning, have been musical.

The Indian talkie celebrated its golden jubilee in New Delhi recently.

Jaguar assembled

Bangalore, [UNI] - The first indigenously assembled deep penetration aircraft, Jaguar, will be delivered to the Indian Air Force by June next year.

The spare parts of the first Jaguar had already been delvicred to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) by the British Aerospace Company, the makers of the Jaguar, for assembling.

HAL, which is engaged in designing, developing and overhauling of the aircraft, is expected to deliver three Jaguars during 1982-83.

Recently, a team from the British Aerospace Company visited the south Indian city of Bangalore and held discussions with HAL authorities.

"We are proceeding under the contractual obligations," sources at HAL told UNI.

Under the contract, India will buy 40 Jaguars, assemble 45 and manufacture another 45. The entire Jaguar program is estimated to cost over 1,250 million dollars.

However, India's bill on Jaguar will be considerably off-set by the provision in the contract under which Britain will import parts worth over 40 million dollars.

Bias against dance

New Delhi, [UNI] - Dancing is taboo in Pakistan.

As dancing is rarely encouraged in the Islamic world, the present regime in Pakistan is likewise careful to see that the Islamic customs are adhered to by its people. Theatres, television and cultural institutions do not organise dance programs in the country.

However, about 200 people saw an Indian danseuse, Mrs. Kiran Sehgal, perform Bharatnatyam and Odissi (two distinct forms of Indian classical dances) in Lahore recently.

Mrs. Sehgal's performance was permitted only because it was the Goethe Institute there that sponsored it. Care was taken to invite only selected people for the function.

As far back as 1950s, the northern city of Lahore was an important cultural centre and a number of Indian performers like Yamini Krishnamurthy and Sitara Devi toured that country.

Despite official disapproval, there are some teachers in that country who are engaged in training young people in the arts and nuances of the centuries-old dance. Kathak (a Muslim court dance) is being taught by a Kathak teacher in Lahore and another is engaged in keeping alive the Indian temple dance, Bharatnatyam.

The number of students is very small, owing to the official disfavour.

The future of this art in Pakistan is bleak, according to Mrs. Sehgal. The state of folk dances in Sind, Baluchistan, North-West Frontier and Punjab is not different.

Music, by contrast, enjoys a lot of patronage. But public recitals are not common in the country.

Even today, the 'Mallika-i-Tarannum" (the melody queen) of the people is Nur Jehan. Mehdi Hasan, Salamat Ali, Ghulam Ali, Iqbal Banu and Reshma are some of the famous singers in Pakistan.

Chinese carpets

New Delhi, [UNI] - China's reproduction of Persian design carpets is adversely affecting India's exports of Kashmiri silk carpets.

China has, over the last two or three years, begun reproduction of Persian design carpets, starting with carpets in silk which has a traditional superiority over their natichs. The production work is meticulously planned in terms of control of colour scheme, design-concept and sizes in demand in the world market.

If this trend for development of Persian design carpets continued in China, it may pose stiff competition to India's exports of Persian design woolen carpets in medium quality, says a study by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT).

India at present commands a substantial share of exports in these carpets in the international market.

Rape: big noise, little action

By K.K. Duggal

New Delhi, [UNI] - A pregnant woman is raped in New Delhi.

A 20-year-old girl is raped by two young men in a parked train in Bombay.

Five athletes are arrested on the charge of raping a woman inside a stadium in Bangalore, capital of the southern state of Karnataka.

The three incidents, picked at random from newspapers in the past two weeks, are the tip of the iceberg. Countless rapes go unreported.

Rape is as old as man -- and woman. But it has assumed manacing proportions in recent years. Many are tempted to blame the films with an overdose of sex and violence and provocative pornographic literature.

No sooner the newspapers carry the rape story a loud cry goes up. Indignant members of Parliament vie with one another to condemn the indigenous Yorkshire Rippers.

Eminent jurists and judges demand deterrent punishment for the depraved debunch.

Women's organisations wake up the perils of male beasts prowling about. And demand for the umpteenth time that the laws be made more stringent to deal with the culprits.

Many urge summary trials of rapists. And many point to the death penalty for rape in the Middle East and the United Arab Emirates. (Just a couple of days ago a rapist was awarded capital punishment by a shariat court in UAE).

The late Nargis Dutt, member of the Upper House of Parliament, made a forceful plea for a change in rape laws to enable the courts to award death penalty to the guilty.

Justice Murtaza Fazal Ali of the Supreme Court has advocated public flogging of men guilty of rape.

India's Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud has said that the minimum punishment for rape should be seven year's jail. He told a seminar that the jury system should be revived and women included in the jury so that "justice is tempered by mercy."

The seminar was organised when a young girl was raped inside a police station in Bombay.

Mr. Chandrachud also suggested that the statement of rape victims should be recorded at their residence by a woman police officer. And the court hearings should be held in camera. His experience had been that the accused were acquitted in many cases because the judge felt that the "demeanour of the girl was not convincing" and she gave her answers in a halting manner. "How do you expect a young girl to give a long lecture on how she was raped when hundreds have collected just because the hearing of a rape case is going on," he asked.

Justice Krishna Iyer offered the view that the change in law alone would not bring much relief. "The most dangerous thing, I apprehend, is the setting up of another commission by the Government of India," he remarked. A redefinition of rape would not be the journey's end. Law had to be liberated from interpretative obstacles. "A sensitised judge is better than a sensitised law," he declared.

Another judge said the onus of proof of rape should be on the accused, not the victim.

The issue was raised in Parliament a couple of months back and MPs expressed indignation over the growing incidence of rape. Policemen were rapped for conniving at the crime and raping women inside police stations. The Press did its bit in focussing public attention on the rapists in uniform. A well-known cartoonist advised women not to go to the police station to report the rape.

Meanwhile, people wait for the law-makers to put punch into rape laws.

Latecoming epidemic

New Delhi, [UNI] - If you tell the clerk nextdoor that he is getting late for the office, his reply, you bet, will be: "So what. Everybody is coming late. Even the sweeper who cleans the office comes late. You can't work on a dirty desk."

Try a senior officer who oversees the work of hundreds. He will tell you with his characteristic forthrightness that he used to be punctual to the minute but when he found that the man who kept the office key was invariably late -- and he couldn't do a thing about it -- he stopped looking at the watch.

Late-coming is the accepted thing. Clerks come late to work. So do their officers. The ministers come late because they seldom remember their appointments or are held up at ribbon-cutting receptions or public meetings.

The contagion has spread over the years so much so that even if you fix up an appointment with the officer sitting over your file he does not expect you to be "dangerously punctual."

The late-coming epidemic became so alarming that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi recently issued a directive to her ministers to enforce strict punctuality and keep a watch on the productivity performance of government employees.

One cabinet minister took the directive too seriously and lost little time in implementing it. One day last week he ordered that the gates be shut at 10.30 a.m. -- 15 minutes after the opening time -- when he found many chairs empty in a surprise check. He also ordered "suitable action" against 230 absentees.

A couple of hours after the Railway Minister, Kedar Pandy, issued the order, the Railway Staff Association summoned an emergency meeting and criticised the government's "unreasonable action" in "willfully preventing" the staff from entering the offices.

The Association decided to lodge a protest with the administration for causing "unnecessary harassment and humiliation" to officers.

Next day angry employees gathered outside the Rail Bhavan, the office of the minister and members of the Railway Board, to demonstrate against what they called the "unfair step" taken by the Railway Minister to stop latecomers from entering the building and to suspend the secretary of the office council of the Railway Board.

They also took exception to the minister's statement that the gates had been closed at 10.30 am. They claimed that the gates were closed at 10.10 a.m., five minutes before the opening time. This, they said, was borne out by the fact that the visitors' register at the reception had no entry between 10.10 and 10.30 a.m.

The employees also said the minister's decision to check their punctuality on a day when it was raining was "unfair." Newspapers had reported that rain had inundated large parts of Delhi and disrupted the transport system which even in normal times is wayward. "How could the employees reach the office on time in such circumstances?" they asked.

Meanwhile, the man-in-the street wonders whether the Prime Minister is as serious about enforcing punctuality as she was during the 20 months of emergency in 1975-77. If she is, indiscipline and lethargy in government offices will disappear as they did during the emergency and the public will get relief from the wayward ways of clerks who are a law unto themselves.

Ordinarily clerks come to work half an hour late. Some come later than others. The first half hour is wasted in small talk over a cup of tea or coffee or telephone calls to friends and relatives. Then someone drops in to say hello and another round of tea is ordered. Meanwhile, files keep on accumulating on the desk or gathering dust on the shelves. Nobody cares if the supervisors arrive late too.

There is more talk and less work in most offices.

Soon the clock strikes five. The clerks leave the files alone, collect their tiffin boxes and bags and make a beeline for the homeward journey. The day's bread has been earned!

U.K. In... land pr...

New Delhi [UNI] - Land prices in New Delhi, rising at an alarming rate with every passing day, are expected to further shoot up in anticipation of the Indian nationals fleeing England following racial riots there.

The prices of land and flats in this city of four million have in fact already started going up even though the influx is yet to begin.

The mass circulated English-language daily "The Hindustan Times" reported on Saturday that in the last three to four days property dealers were quoting 5 to 10 per cent more for land and flat builders were asking for 25 per cent more.

Already, the posh colonies of South Delhi, which also house the sprawling diplomatic missions, swamped by Iranians and Afghans who crossed over to India following the Islamic revolution in Iran and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Indians have also come from the two countries, plus Kuwait after the Iran-Iraq

Air Canada ... landing

Calcutta [UNI] - Several international airlines which discontinued Calcutta services in eastern India several years ago are now reported to be keenly interested in touching Dum Dum airport again.

KLM, Korean Airlines, Pan American Airways and Air Canada have already approached the Government of India for landing rights in Calcutta. But permission has not yet been

Running ou... uranium

Hyderabad, [UNI] - The nuclear fuel complex (NFC) here is running out of enriched uranium. It is left with only three tonnes of the enriched uranium, according to its chief executive, N. Kondala Rao.

The fabrication plant at Hyderabad which supplied the fabricated fuel to the U.S.-built Tarapur plant would work to full capacity only till the beginning of next month.

After that, the scrap material will be processed at the plant which may keep it going until the end of next year at one fifth of the

Uranium k...

New Delhi, [UNI] - With the success of achieving sophisticated process technology of enriched indigenously available uranium, in the event of non-receipt of enriched uranium-235 from the United States, India's atomic power station at Tarapur may not face a closure.

An English daily, "The Economic Times", says India can convert non-fissile uranium-238 into enriched uranium-235 which is the grade required for running the 420-MW Tarapur

U.K. Indians boost land prices

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A number of property dealers and brokers say that with Indians coming in from Gulf, the local people have been forced to move to the suburbs, which until a few years ago, were nothing but barren land and dense forests.

The increasing land prices in New Delhi have frequently come under criticism in the Indian Parliament as well, and the Government-run Delhi Development Authority, which has a near monopoly in building houses in the capital city, has been accused of colluding with private property-builders in encouraging land speculation.

The prices of land and flats have nearly doubled during the last two years. A single one room tenement in a way out colony has a rent of RS 100 to Rs. 150 (13 to 19 dollars) a month.

In the posh colonies, small three-roomed houses are rented out at nothing less than Rs 2,000 a month.

The average salary of a government servant is anything between Rs. 500 and Rs 1,000 a month.

Commenting on the possible influx of UK Indians, a dealer said: "After all, where will they go? India is the only place where they can take shelter."

The "Hindustan Times" said the impact the UK Indians will have on land prices in the Indian capital will depend on how much money they are allowed to bring with them. "The British Government is expected to impose restrictions on it as wholesale transfer of wealth can mean further damage to an already sick UK economy."

Whatever be the case, the residents of Delhi are keeping their fingers crossed. "Only the sky seems to be the limit", a dismayed retired government official said, and one of the many hunting for a place to live.

Air Canada seeks landing

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KLM, Korean Airlines, Pan American Airways and Air Canada have already approached the Government of India for landing rights in Calcutta. But permission has not yet been forthcoming.

According to an aviation expert here, the policy of keeping Calcutta and Madras international airports under-utilised had created a serious imbalance in the distribution of flights among the four international airports - those in Delhi and Bombay.

A number of foreign airlines which were operating through Calcutta were allowed to gradually shift to Bombay and Delhi.

Running out of uranium

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After that, the scrap material will be processed at the plant which may keep it going until the end of next year at one fifth of the actual capacity.

The plant worked partially for eight months last year because of various bottlenecks in the supply of uranium by the United States. Mr. Carter, the then U.S. President, had cleared two consignments of enriched uranium for India last September. Of this, the first one -- 19.5 tonnes was released immediately. The plant is left with three tonnes of this consignment.

The agreement was that the supply of the second consignment would be reviewed by August and the talks for the supply were now in progress.

Uranium know-how

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An English daily, "The Economic Times", says India can convert non-fissile uranium-238 into enriched uranium-235 which is the grade required for running the 420-MW Tarapur Atomic Power Station in the western state of Maharashtra.

Leading nuclear scientists, engaged here, are of the view that enriching uranium would not be a difficult job now. "We are capable of enriching our own uranium," they claimed. The main problem on the part of India is that it involves high technology which is very expensive and highly power consuming. However, the possibility of enriching uranium is limited in the country owing to negligible requirement of enriched uranium in the coming years.

10,000 year calendar

Bombay, [UNI] - A resident of Pune, near Bombay has devised a small one-sheet calendar which helps calculate the day between 1 A.D. and 10,000 A.D. within minutes.

Kamalkant A. Bhise, who has devised this calendar and christened it as "10,000 years at a glance", says India's Independence Day 100 years hence will fall on Friday like it was in 1947.

A unique feature of the calendar is that it combines the Julian and the Gregorian calendars.

Mr. Bhise says he had made various adjustments in different periods, including leap years, to make this simple-and-easy-to-read calendar accurate and perfect.

According to him, the calendar can be used all over the world since it consists of the history of the calendar from 45 B.C. - the year Julius Caesar decreed the use of the Julian calendar -- till October 15, 1582 -- when the modern Gregorian calendar was adopted.

Diamond Club

Bombay, [UNI] - A diamond club, the first of its kind in India, will be set up in Bombay by the year-end. The club will operate on the lines of those in Antwerp, London, Tel Aviv, Paris and New York.

The premises for the club, which will promote exports of diamonds, precious stones and jewellery, have been taken in South Bombay and work for furnishing and interior decoration is progressing fast.

Sponsored by R.J. Wood and Company, a recognised export house, the club will have a permanent display of jewellery to give buyers an idea of the craftsmanship and skills of Indian artisans.

Indian goods display in Toronto

By George Mathew

New Delhi: A variety of Indian Engineering goods will be on display at the Buyer-Seller Meet to be held in Toronto from September 20 to October 2, 1981.

The Buyer-Seller Meet to be spread over an area of about 4000 sq. metres in Toronto will later be shifted to Atlanta from October 12 to 16.

This would be the seventh such Meet organised by the Trade Development Authority of India (TDA) for bringing the buyers and sellers together for trade contact and promotion. Although sport orders worth several million rupees are booked at these Meets, the TDA's main emphasis is to generate trade contacts which would develop into long-term export growth.

At the Toronto Meet more than 100 leading Indian manufacturers of engineering products would participate. The items on display include: hand tools and garden tools, machine tools, accessories and cutting tools, ferrous castings and forgings, custom-built fabricated and machined metal products, builders hardware, industrial fasteners, auto ancillaries including accessories, mopeds, bicycles and components, diesel engines and parts, pumps and compressors, electronic equipment and components.

The Buyer-Seller Meet at Toronto is being organised with technical and financial assistance from International Trade Centre, Geneva. The Meet at Atlanta is being held with technical and financial assistance from the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, London.

Indians Abroad

Explaining TDA's efforts in promoting export growth of Indian products, D.W. Telang, Executive Director, said businessmen of Indian origin in these countries could play a greater role in promoting Indian goods abroad.

Their Indian background helped establish easy rapport with the Indian manufacturers and identify items which could find easy market abroad. At the same time their position and placement abroad gave the necessary confidence and guarantee to the local buyer vis-a-vis quality control, delivery schedule, etc.

DINOSAURIAN BONES FOUND IN INDIA

Calcutta, [UNI] - A large number of dinosaurian bones have been recovered by the cretaceous rocks near Kallamedu in Trichirapalli district of southern state of Tamil Nadu.

The GSI experts also recovered fossilized pelvic parts of stegasaur.

Indo-Canadian Trade

India's trade with Canada has increased significantly during the last decade. Statistical data relating to Indo-Canadian trade for the period 1970-79 shows that India's exports have increased from US $34.96 million in 1970 to US $79.70 million in 1979; imports into India have expanded from US $146.52 million in 1970 to US $192.91 million in 1979.

India's imports from Canada are mainly confined to vegetable oils and fats, paper and paper board and fertilisers which account for about 60 per cent. Other items are synthetic and man-made fibres, oil seeds, oil nuts and oil kernels, sulphur, electrical and non-electrical machinery, nickel, lead and copper.

India's exports to Canada consist of both traditional and non-traditional items. In the former category, the major items are: jute goods, tea, coffee, textiles, spices and tobacco, while the later category includes items like carpets and leather and leather goods including footwear, sporting goods, handicrafts, marine products, fruits, vegetables and fruit products, precious and semi-precious jewellery, chemical and engineering goods.

Exports through TDA to Canada increased by 90 per cent between 1975 and 1979. Items for which the value of export were beyond Rs one crore included readymade garments (non-knit), earning Rs 9.54 crores in export value during 1978-79.

Other items of significance are: auto ancillaries, castings and forgings, electronics, select handicrafts, household and kitchenware, industrial fasteners, pipes, tubes and fittings, plastics, pumps and centrifuges, readymade garments (knit) and sports goods.

A wide range of engineering goods are currently being exported to Canada. The value of such export during 1979 was US $10.19 million.

India's Exports to USA

India's exports to USA have almost doubled during the period 1975-79. Major items of exports to USA are diamonds, precious and semi-precious stones, fish, coffee, carpets and druggets; gums, resins and lac, leather and leather products, marine products, hand and machine tools, cotton and textile made-ups; and jute manufactures.

Export of cotton textile garments registered a decline during 1976-77 but it increased to US $144 million in 1978 and to $160 million in 1979 as against US $86 million in 1975.

Major products whose exports to USA are increasing in recent years are gems and jewellery, textiles, leather products, garments, carpets and manufactured products like handtools and machine tools.

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REFUGEES

According to news reports, several hundred people from India have entered Canada claiming they are refugees from the so-called Khalisthan. They apparently claim that the Indian Government is persecuting Sikhs who stand for an independent state of Khalisthan.

Khalisthan is a figment of some people's rich imagination supported by the riches of some overseas Indians. The vast majority of Sikhs in India are happy with, and are enjoying the benefits of the secularism that prevails in India. Only sick minds can conceive of a separate and independent state for the Sikhs in the sub-continent of India.

Regardless of the merits and demerits of Khalisthan, the supporters of this wild idea, have no claims whatsoever for refugee status in Canada. None is persecuting them in India. They are trying to use this argument - a very lame one indeed - to obtain immigrant status if possible and if not stay on as illegal immigrants. It is quite possible that some of them are misled by unscrupulous travel agents and immigration consultants. Whetever is legally possible should be done immediately to stop such exploitation.

Potential illegal immigration from India is causing a number of problems for law-abiding immigrants from India. First, such false claims for refugee status is spoiling the image of Indo-Canadians in this country. Everyone knows how hard it is to build up a good image of our community here. Secondly, as tax payers it is causing us a lot of money to support such dishonest individuals here. Third, genuine visitors from India will find it harder to get into Canada because of these fradulent practices.

What is needed is a quick disposal of these cases by more resources for the Refugee Status Advisory Committee of the Canadian Government. These potential illegal immigrants should be dealt with immediately and the news that they are being returned to India should be disseminated there so that too many of these so-called refugees will not become victims of travel agents and immigration consultants.

Devadasis go underground

Bangalore, [UNI] - The centuries-old "Devadasi" system still exists in the south Indian state of Karnataka, but it has gone underground.

Under the "Devadasi" system, unmarried girls are offered for services as temple dancers. This is done in fulfilment of a vow by the parents and also for the purpose of warding of any misfortune or calamity that might befall the family.

Over the years, this system has degenerated into prostitution with the girls being driven into a life of shame.

The latest plea to abolish the system was made in the Indian Parliament last winter, after many social organisations in the country had been campaigning against this practice.

A study, conducted by Asha Ramesh and H.P. Philomena of the Joint Women's Program (JWP), Bangalore, says the recruitment now takes place secretively in homes by gullible parents with the connivance of the priests of the famed Yellamma Temple at Saundatti.

The study attributed the decline in the number of girls dedicated at Saundatti to the high cost involved -- about Rs.5,000 a girl -- and the strict vigilance by law enforcement agencies.

According to the team, which extensively toured the taluks (administrative units of a district) of Ramdurg, Athani and Nipani besides Saundatti, the system widely prevailed in Ugargol, a hamlet near the Yellamma Temple. The system was once widely prevalent amongsamgars (tanners), dhors (cobblers), boleyars (former outcast Hindus) and madras (scavengers;, but was now mostly confined to the last two castes.

The system has its root cause in the poverty of the people of the region which is perpetually hit by drought. Young womenfolk of landless peasants sell themselves because their menfolk cannot support them. The mirage of prosperity and a life of ease in far off cities impel young wives to desert their husbands and parents to sell their daughters.

The study says the devadasi system gives an open licence for flesh trade and gives it a religious garb. No social stigma is attached to the girls and they are accepted as equals by caste Hindus. Even the children of devadasis have no lineage problem as they are allowed to take the family name or title of their mothers. They are freely invited on auspicious occasions in the homes of higher castes.

The team has made only a prelminary survey and feels that an in-depth study is needed before the scourage can be eliminated.

JWP executive director Jyotsna Chatterjee has demanded immediate steps for proper rehabilitation of the devadasis. Effective implementation of the existing law against devadasi system is not possible without the active support and cooperation of women's organisations, she says.

Marriage on the rocks

New Delhi, [UNI] - Politics and matrimony are odd companions. So when two politicians -- old political rivals, to boot -- are joined in wedlock it makes news. But when the marriage carcks up before the honeymoon ends and the husband serves a divorce ultimatum on his spouse it makes juicy headlines.

This film-style drama is going on in Punjab, the north-western border state of India,, betwen Sajida Begum, an MLA belonging to the Congress Party headed by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and her husband, Haji Anwar Ahmed Khan, a member of the Akali Party, the main opposition party in the State.

The Haji has served a 15-day ultimatum on the Begum to "mend her ways or face divorce." The ultimatum expired on August 20.

The Begum is a divorcee. The Haji has one more wife from whom he has six children.

Begum Sajida, a beautiful woman in her early forties, married Haji Anwar Khan in December last year, soon after she was divorced by her first husband, Nawab Iftikhar Ali Khan of Malerkotla, a princely state now merged in the Punjab district of Sangrur.

The marriage was annulled by the Mufti of Darul Uloom, Deoband, on the grounds that the Begum had not observed the 100-day mourning period of Iddat as prescribed by the Islamic law. Sajida Begum completed Iddat in June as directed by the Mufti and remarried Haji Anwar Ahmed Khan.

However, an unpleasant political controversy between the couple erupted soon after remarriage.

The husband objected to her closed door meetings with political bosses of her party. He said he had made it clear to her before marriage that she would have no closed door meetings with any male except her husband.

The husband has also accused her of violating another condition laid down by him before their remarriage in Malerkotla. This was that she would join the Akali party and quit the Congress Party.

However, the Begum contests the claim. She says she had made it clear to her husband that she would continue to be a member of the Congress Party and he was free to stay on in the Akali Party and that politics would not come in the way of their married life.

Sajida Begum is a senior Congress leader and a close supporter of the Central Home Minister, Zail Singh.

She was elected to the Punjab Assembly a second time last year, defeating her Akali rival - none else than Haji Anwar Ahmed Khan - to whom she had lost in 1977. In the 1972 elections she had defeated the same man who was to become her husband nine years later.

Some common friends feel that differences between the couple have cropped up over the Begum's property too for which she is planning to form a trustee much against the wishes of her husband.

The Haji's visit to his other wife on the Eid day is said to have caused bitter feelings in the Begum who was reportedly assured that after marriage the Haji would stop visiting the first wife.

Sajida Begum was divorced by the Nawab of Malerkotla last year following a property dispute.

The Nawab, a former MLA who had been in the Congress as well as the Akali Party, retired from politics in 1972 when Sajida Begum made her debut.

The childless Nawab, it is said, was advised by holy men to pick up a commoner as his wife who will bear him children. Sajida, a charming dame, caught his eye and he married her years back in the fond hope that she would bear him an heir. But Begum bore him no child. Like his earlier wives who had blue blood in their veins.

Rumour has it that the Nawab, much older in age, did not like the Begum's politicking although he was the one who brought her into politics.

Letters

Sikhism

Mr.Mukhopadhyay's brief analysis of Dr.Sondhi's article on Guru Gobind Singh's saintliness did not touch the central idea relevant to the original article. Positive spiritualism, the teaching of Guru Gobind Singh should not be interpreted in any way as negation or escapism from harsh realities of life. Guru Gobind Singh's initial spiritual heritage acquired from Guru Nanak Dev's philosophy, warranted him at that trying and crucial time to assimilate it with the then badly needed urge to help achieve the freedom and protection for the oppressed and grieved Hindus.Thus came the creation of a religion "The Sikhism" by the Tenth guru, Gobind Singh.

He has made supreme sacrifices and struggled all along life.

Dr.K.S.Dhindsa,
Pointe Claire, Que.

More sa... to be la...

Bombay, [UNI] - The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is planning to launch satellites like Bhaskara and pay-loads, weighing between 600 and 700 kg into sun-synchronous orbits by 1985-86, according to ISRO Satellite Centre Director U.R. Rao.

The ISRO is also planning to upgrade SLV-3 launch vehicle with strap-on boosters to achieve a capability of launching 150-kg pay loads and develop a totally new vehicle in two to three years, Prof. Rao said.

With the know-how gained from the Indian national satellites and later with the development of our own launch vehicle SLV-3, the country would be able to launch its own communication satellites in a few years, he said.

Prof. Rao said it was essential to launch sounding rockets for carrying out experiments related to atmospheric physics, meteorology and astronomy. These were basically designed to understand the atmosphere, atmospheric circulation and the ionosphere.

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In Prof. Rao's opinion, developing country like India can avoid step-by-step progress followed by developed countries. "By avoiding the intermediate steps we can reach the level of progress the others have already reached."

Prof. Rao said one must base one's choice on sound technological judgment and cost benefits so that the sophisticated technology that was adopted not for prestige but to cater to the needs of the country.

India, therefore, preferred the satellite technology in 1972 since the purpose of any peaceful space program was to launch satellites particularly for applications purposes. Thusaryabha..., the first satellite, was launched in 1975 with Soviet assistance to build the capability in spacecraft technology in its thermal control, telecommands, ... transmission and power system.

Having proven that capability, we immediately went to Bhaskara, an experimental earth resources satellite, to provide images over the country and the surrounding areas for studying hydrology, forest..., snow-cover, snow-melt and ocean surface conditions, he said.

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Prof. Rao said Bhaskara-II was to be launched within the next few months, and, likewise, work on highly complicated Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE) which was a three-axis stabilised geostationary satellite was taken up. This would pave the way for future operational communication satellites as Bhaskara was paving way for the future earth resources satellite.

The ISRO Director said Bhaskara was providing pictures from both its television cameras and microwave imagery, of the Indian sub-continent and the surrounding oceans for resource purposes and, in the meantime, "we also went through the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) where we had borrowed the ATS-6 satellite for a year from NASA and used it for demonstrating the capability of a communications satellite."

It was used for the purpose of education in remote rural areas which demonstrated that a communications satellite of this type was the answer to the problem of improvement of quality of life in the rural areas in our own life-time, he said.

Meanwhile, encouraged by the success of Bhaskara, "we have already started working on the design of a semi-operational remote sensing satellite with a resolution of 40 to 50 metres, unlike Bhaskara which had a resolution of 800 metres," Prof. Rao said.

This satellite, which would be called the Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellite, would hopefully province information in areas like agriculture and soil mechanics, geology and mining, which was crucial for the development of the country.

India had come of age in the field of satellite technology and has already launched three satellites. Rohini-One and Two were launched with India's own launch vehicles. Even though they weighed less than 40 kg, they were complex satellites, Prof. Rao said.

Why mass conversions?

Meenakshipuram, [UNI] - Did money play a part in the mass conversion of Harijans to Islam in Meenakshipuram? Yes, say some. Was police harassment responsible for it? Yes, say some others. Were the Harijans (Hindu outcastes) acting to settle scores with caste Hindus who ill-treated them? Yes, say still others.

They may all be right, for there is no simple explanation for the transformation that has taken place in this sleepy village. In Tirunelveli district in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Investigators pouring into the village from all over the country are viewing the recent developments from different angles and offering varied explanations.

R. Subramaniam, who returned to the Hindu fold last week after having embraced Islam under the name of Ashraf-Ali early this year, told a UNI correspondent he had received Rs 500 on February 21, the day the mass conversion took place, and had been promised more assistance. A police official corroborated that wealthy Muslims in Madurai and Tiruchirapalli had handed out gifts, including cash, to the converts.

The converts, however, denied there had been any monetary inducement. On the contrary, they charged that Hindus were offering bribes "to reconvert us."

A convert, Mr. Yusuf (formerly Thangaraj) insisted that police harassment was responsible for the mass conversion. He is the principal accused in a case registered by police in connection with the murder of two members of the Thevar (Hindu) community, both watchmen in an estate in a neighbouring village, in January this year.

He claimed that he had been implicated in the case because he had earned the displeasure of the Thevars on two counts: First, he had married a Thevar woman; secondly, he had exposed two Thevars who had been collecting donations in the name of the Thiruvaduthurai Adheenam, which owned most of the land in the village, and fattening themselves. The Circle Inspector happened to be a Thevar.

He alleged that the residents of Meenakshipuram were subjected to harassment in the wake of the murders. Harijan men and women were stripped and beaten up by Thevars. A Harijan woman's nipple was cut off. At that stage, the Harijans decided to seek refuge in Islam.

Did that mean they became Muslims to escape punishment for murder? Mr. Yusuf posed a counter-question: "Is there a separate criminal code for Muslims?"

Mr. Yusuf theorised that the murders might have been the result of bickerings among the Thevars. He spoke highly of one of the two men killed.

Why did he go into hiding? Mr. Yusuf explained that it was known that police were looking for him. His wife was expecting their second child. He was afraid if he was with her, she would be harmed. He had surrendered to a magistrate immediately after the baby arrived. He was now out on bail.

What about the counterfeit note printing machines which police seized from his house? "They were planted after I went into hiding and seized with a lot of publicity," he said.

Pulling out a photograph of the Harijan leader, the late Dr. B.R. Ambedkar from his purse, Mr. Yusuf said: "He is still my leader. He unwisely embraced Buddhism. Buddhism has no future in India. Islam has."

Syed Sulaiman (formerly Paramasivam), a former member of the Panchayat Board (village administrative body), said 210 out of 460 Harijan families of the villages had embraced Islam.

Mr. Haja Mohideen (formerly Kandaswami), a teacher in Government High School, and several other converts said the harassment that followed the murder of the Thevars and the case against Mr. Yusuf were the immediate cause of the mass conversion.

"The story of police harassment and nipple-cutting is a total lie," said a police official who did not want to be identified. He said the two watchmen were murdered after they discovered that fake notes were being printed in the estate. During the investigation of the case many villagers were interrogated.

Yusuf, the prime suspect in the case, was already a Muslim, he pointed out, having converted to Islam in 1977 soon after his marriage "in the hope that Muslims will protect him from Thevars who were angry as he had eloped with a Thevar woman."

He claimed that the police were a demoralized lot today. "If so much fuss is made about a simple interrogation in a murder case and if the guilty take shelter behind the facade of religion, what can we do?" he asked. "The police are being blamed for everything," he lamented. "We are being made scapegoats."

He argued that the fact that 12 of the 20 accused in the murder and counterfeiting cases were still Hindus disproved the claim that police harassment was responsible for the mass conversion.

He offered another theory to explain the conversions. There was a large Muslim population in the area. Muslims were landowners, traders and money-lenders. The Harijans were economically dependent upon them. Conversion to Islam had been going on at a steady rate for many years. The only new thing which happened at Meenakshipuram was that a large number of persons changed faith on a single day.

He thought that when the converts realized that they had lost the privileges which they had enjoyed as Harijans, most of them would be ready to return to the Hindu fold and in this context, he pointed out that converts occupying Government land meant for Harijans would be liable to eviction.

While one convert ruled out return to Hinduism "even if Mrs. Gandhi offers us hundreds of thousands of rupees," another expressed willingness to return to the Hindu fold "if a Brahmin marries me." Yet another envisaged more and more villages following the example of Meenakshipuram until "Muslims are in a majority in this country and an Islamic revolution sweeps India."

Anti-inflationary measures criticised

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Agriculture have assailed the government decision to import wheat, sugar and other essential items at a time when the foodgrain position is "comfortable."

Several members were critical of the decision and suggested that instead of wasting foreign exchange on imports, the government should encourage Indian farmers to produce more. The imported price of wheat and other items were much higher than their ruling prices in the country, they pointed out.

Charan Singh, Lok Dal Leader and former Prime Minister, said that the government's decision was "beyond expectation and is inexplicable."

Inderjit Gupta, M.P. (CPI) said the fresh hike would inevitably fuel inflation and prices in a chain effect. The budget presented by the Finance Minister has proved totally "bankrupt."

Madhu Dantavate, M.P. and former Janata Minister, said the manner in which the price hike has been effected clearly demonstrated a total violation of the sanctity of the budget.

The Southern India Chambers of Commerce said the sudden and steep increase in prices of petroleum products for the second time this year would have serious repercussions on the country's economy. The present increase would push up transport and other related costs further and thereby affect economic progress.

Trade circles feel that prices of all commodities are bound to go up on account of increase in transport charges.

The Bharatiya Janata Party has decided to launch an all-India movement to resist the import and distribution of US wheat.

The Party President, A.B. Vajpayee, said that unwanted US wheat would not be allowed to be unloaded on Indian shores.

Morarji Desai, former Prime Minister, has said that the decision to import wheat from the U.S. "is a fraud."

He did not rule out the possibility of diversion of imported wheat to the Soviet Union.

However, the Finance Minister, R.Venkitraman, maintained that the "rise in prices will contain inflation and the present price hike will reduce consumption."

SPECIAL HALLS

New Delhi, [UNI] - Two specially constructed exhibition halls, one for Arab nations and the other for African, will be the main attractions in the 45-nation International Trade Fair to be held in New Delhi between November 14 and December 4 this year. The Fair is to be an annual feature.

FILMS

AAKALER SANDHANE
[Bengali]

Direction and screenplay by Mrinal Sen

Produced by Dhiresh Chakraborty

Aakaler Sandhane is a film within a film which creates the conflict between illusion and reality. The people and the settings are real and so are the emotions though these are felt after the 'illusion' of the past is recalled. The film medium is in itself an illusion. This is one level of the working of **Aakaler Sandhane** ("In Search of Famine").

The other level is the bitter experience of a film crew which has gone to a Bengal village to film the 1943 famine in Bengal. The crew reaches the village and is billeted in an old castle-like building which is a reminder of the feudal times. They live an almost corporate life, roam about the building, discuss the scripts, locations, placement of the cameras, etc. They live a double life : one, when acting, the other, when not acting. Smita Patil, an actress in her own right, has to play the role of a famine-stricken woman fleeing the village along with many others. The village folk crowd round the film unit whenever they shoot a scene. For some spectators, shooting of the famine conditions is a horrible experience. A village woman is horrified by the vision of what the film crew is shooting - her own miserable life is no different from that of the film's leading lady condition verging on starvation. She is visibly moved, guessing what the future would be like as she watches a scene being shot. The director of the film within the film is misunderstood when he approaches a village woman to play the role of a prostitute (his own actress has refused to do the role and left for the city in a hush-hush affair). A village clairvoyant adds his own doubts in the minds of the film-makers. All this amounts to a bizarre, situation, confusion and conflict. Famine-seekers turn into famine-creators. The villagers become hostile. The camera unit packs up and leaves the village.

The structure of the film is patterned after Pirandello's play **Six Characters in Search of an Author**. Many films with a similar structure - a film crew filming a certain situation, happening or character - have been made. The last one we saw was at the time of the 1977 International Film Festival of India, Francois Truffaut's **Day For Night** which was about the problems and put-on jobs of the film-makers.

Aakaler Sandhane was awarded the **Best Feature Film Award** in the 28th National Film Festival (1981). The citation for it read: for "Brilliantly recreating the tragedy of the 1943 Bengal famine and focussing on the disturbing continuity of the conditions which created it, for the cinematic excellence of the film which explored human experience at different levels and for the consummate artistry with which the complexity of the socio-economic situation is fused into a poignant statement." There is everything else in the film except "the cinematic excellence."

The film also won for its director, Mrinal Sen, who has gathered many awards earlier starting with **Bhuvan Shome** (1970), the **Best Direction** award. The citation read: for exploring the inevitable conflict between urban and rural cultures, for displaying in almost every sequence masterly handling and complete command over the medium." It is taken for granted that the Best Feature Film should also get the Best Direction award. So far the policy of the National Film Awards' juries has been to diversify the awards and encourage young film-makers. The structure of the film is not so complex as the Jury thought. Many will disagree with the director's "masterly handling and complete command over the medium." At least in one shot the zoom lens (focused on Smita Patil) is not allowed to complete its full forward movement rather the shot is cut midway. This goes against the very technique of zoom lens application.

Mrinal Sen also won the best screenplay award for scripting **Aakaler Sandhane**. There were many films with better screenplays than that of **Aakaler Sandhane** in the National Film Festival this year. We cite only two: **Aakrosh** (Directed by Govind Nihalani which shared the Golden Peacock with a Romanian film, at the eighth International Film Festival of India, last January) and **Oppol** (the Malayalam film directed by K. S. Sethumadhavan which was declared the Second Best Feature film of the year). The screenplays for both the films are original, without precedent, and the themes of the two films are more valid and important in the present-day socio-economic structure than that of **Aakaler Sandhane**.

If social relevance is the first consideration, for judging a film, as Mr. V. Shantaram, Chairman of the 28th National Film Festival declared at a Press conference last month, then **Aakaler Sandhane** should have been rejected outright. Mr. Shantaram opined that as **Aakrosh** has box-office considerations, it was not considered for the top awards. The lone song-dance sequence in **Aakrosh** is very essential for establishing the character of the killer of a young tribal, as also to show that the killer was not alone, he had his henchmen too. Of course, there is a bedroom sequence showing a couple making love. But that could also be explained as showing the attachment of the couple. And the sequence is not vulgar.

HABARI

Directed by Sher Jung Singh
Produced by Hitkari Singh

Who is more selfish and cruel - human or the animal species? The way we are making and have made many animals extinct goes to prove that the human being is more cruel, though he claims to possess better sense than the animal.

Habari inspired by the Hollywood film **Hatari** which was shot mostly in the African jungles, pleads for the preservation and protection of animals. The variety of wild life one comes across in **Habari** has not been seen in any Hindi or Indian film for that matter so far, that is the plus point of the film. However, the story is hackneyed and mundane.

The villain, who kills wild life to make profit by stuffing them and exporting the stuffed "animals" to richer countries, is in conflict with the hero, a lover of animal kind, fired with the passion to preserve and protect them. Animals are, for him, the best friends of mankind and he fights his own species to protect them. In the finale, a variety of wild animals converge on the villain to give the evil man the last kick and smother him under their feet, it is poetic justice the film makers have intended.

Shot in many wild life preservation sanctuaries - National Park of Kenya, Tsavo National Park, Ambosli Game Park, Masai-Mara Game Park, Shimba Hills National Park, Meru Malika Game Reserve, Samburu Game Reserve and Nairobi National Park - the film presents animals as varied in their build and skin as the elephant, deer, lion, tiger, hippo, zebra, giraffe, as well as birds and reptiles. Children will love to watch this treasure of wild life on screen. For that reason **Habari** is not only entertaining but also educative. Maybe for that reason, it is dedicated to the International Year of the Child. The child in the film is a lover of animals; the young ones of the animals and the children have a special affinity among themselves, friendship, understanding and playfulness.

Cinematographer Kamalakar Rao has done a stylish job in photographing the wildlife on the ground and from the air (in the helicopter), it is a sturdy achievement. Many thrilling moments in it would amuse the young audience but its strong quota of violence repels one.

In such a film actors don't matter much; because it is the animals who steal the show and perform better than human beings.

ABHISHAP ["Curse"]

Directed by Akash Jain

Produced by Kunwar Khurana

Story and script by R N Panday

A documentary has necessarily to be biased - to be purposeful. Biased against the social/economic evil it depicts, biased in favor of reform and message. **Abhishap** has this quality.

It takes up the public issue of beggary - not to encourage it but to stop it, to root it out of the social system of India. In the name of beggary so many evils flourish - exploitation of men and women by unscrupulous elements, demeaning human nature by encouraging and supporting beggars to "earn" quick money without doing any work. The film, in precise and clear-cut images, narrates how begging has become a hateful practice and what should be done to discourage it. **Bhikari ko bheek mat do bhavish do** ("Don't give alms to the beggar, give him future") it pleads. It has been found that once a person is forted into begging he takes to it as a profession. The habit of shirking work and making easy money are its two attractions. No beggar willingly likes to be rehabilitated, that is why Poor Homes and Beggar Homes are lying vacant.

Abhishap informs us that there are over 10 lakhs beggars in India, who "earn" over Rs 15 crores through alms. And the Indian nature of washing one's sins or clearing one's bad conscience through alms is at the back of this mounting evil. Beggars are not only ugly sights but are also disease carriers. Even normal persons pose themselves as diseased, deformed and disabled - **Abhishap** gives a few glimpses of it - to seek alms and beg by appealing to the merciful nature and religious instinct of man.

It is films like **Abhishap** which spotlight the social evils and educate the people.

Abhishap, the first independent venture of the filmmakers, deserves to be widely circulated and dubbed in various other Indian languages. In a short span of 14 minutes, it makes us aware of the evil that beggary is and our weakness to encourage it. One would like its producer, Meenakshi Film Productions, to produce more such like short films to make us conscious of our social evils and personal failings.

Indian film released in Pak

New Delhi, [UNI] - 'Kashish', an Indian film, has been released in Pakistan, with the authorities making an exception to the country's ban on all Indian films.

According to the newspaper "Dawn", the film was released last month. It has an all Indian cast and was produced by a Pakistani in the United States.

This is the second Indian film to be screened in Pakistan. "Nur Jehan," released more than twenty-five years ago, was the first.

However, the exemption of 'Kashish' should not be considered favourable indication for screening other Indian films, the paper quoted Pakistan's culture minister, Arbab Niaz Muhammad as saying. The ban on Indian films would continue, the paper added.

It did not list any reasons for the exemption of Kashish.

In a related development, Pakistan's Culture Ministry sent a communication to the Pakistan Film Producers Association, indicating its displeasure over the trend among producers to name their films after Indian ones. The ministry urged the Pakistani producers to resist from giving Indian titles to their films, saying the practice lowered national prestige. Besides, the Ministry added, it harmed the export of Pakistani films.

As an example, it mentioned two films - 'Shan' and 'Thodisi Bewafai' - the names of which have been borrowed from recently released Indian films.

Mauritius film festival

Madras, [UNI] - A festival of Indian films will be organised in Mauritius shortly.

South Indian language films, as well as Hindi and Marathi (language spoken in western state of Maharashtra) would be invited to the festival. A Festival of South Indian films was held in Mauritius recently.

Mauritius Information and Broadcasting Minister, Suresh Moorba said a proposal had been made to him by the film circles here for setting up a film studio in his country and he had welcomed the idea.

SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN ASIAD GYMNASTICS

Chandigarh, [UNI] - Seventeen countries, including China, Japan and the two Koreas, are expected to field teams in gymnastics events in the ninth Asian Games to be held at Delhi in 1982.

This was stated by the President of the Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI), B.S. Ojha, after his return from Montreux (Switzerland) where he met representatives of gymnastics bodies of various countries.

Mr. Ojha was deputed by the special committee of the Asian Games to represent India at the centenary celebrations of the International Federation of Gymnastics (IFG) at Montreux.

The IFG, Mr. Ojha said, had agreed to appoint a technical adviser for the Games.

To prepare the required number of judges for the Games, Mr. Ojha said it had been decided to hold a solidarity course at Patiala (north India) in mid-August.

For the training of the Indian gymnastics team he said the Russian Gymnastics Organization president, Yuri Titov, had promised all help, including coaches, and extended an invitation to the Indian team to visit Russia for the purpose.

Be careful i ethnic store

By Dick Lochan
Our Toronto Representative

Shopping at that ethnic speciality food store, groceries can be more expensive if you aren't more careful.

Although you may be a thrifty shopper who compares prices, buys moderately and shops around for good bargains at economical prices, when it comes to grocery shopping at that ethnic specialty store you may have to be much more careful of being ripped off on the weighing scales at the hands of some get-rich-quick type enterprising entrepreneur.

To begin with, ethnic specialty food stores are usually more expensive than the local neighbourhood grocery store for they deal mainly in imported goods and are set up to cater for particular ethnic people(s). As a result, their price mark-up is usually quite high. Nevertheless, because they are so few and far between and the demand for the specialty foods is so great they have developed a monopoly on the business.

If you shop at these stores, here are some things you should know. Be aware at all times. You have a right to see the weight on the

Walk-a-thon

Indo-Canadian Community in association with several other ethnic groups in the Ottawa-Hull region is planning to hold a walk-a-thon on Sunday, September 20th, in support of the Children's Aid Society of Ottawa-Carleton. The walk will start at 8.00 a.m. from Parliament Hill and end at the Indo-Canadian Community Centre. The route is about 30 km.

Donations are tax deductible and please make the cheques payable to Children's Night 1981 and mail to Indo-Canadian Community Centre, 1346 Bank Street, Ottawa, K1H 7X9.

Anyone interested in

New exec

By Atul Sharma

Moncton: A new executive has been elected for the Indo-Canada Association of Moncton.

President: Ram Sharma,
Vice-President: Sushil Bajpai,
Treasurer: Usha Amin,
Secretary: Yashmin Khan,
Members: Rita Khan and Narinder Srivastava,
Past President: Lakhbir Sodhi.

The Association, formed in 1969, has developed from a group of friends who got together for parties to an organization which familiarises Indian culture to other Canadians.

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If you shop at these stores, here are some things you should know. Be aware at all times. You have a right to see the weight on the scale when you're making any purchase. Demand that right. Ask to see for yourself the accurate weight of your purchase before you agree on the price, so that you know exactly what you're paying for. Question the price if needs be (especially if it's not posted) so that you're sure in your mind that you're paying the right amount. Don't just leave the actual weighing and pricing to the entrepreneur - you may be leaving yourself open to be robbed blind. Look on at the weighing and the corresponding price put on very closely to keep the entrepreneur honest and to ensure that you're getting your proper money's worth.

If, on top of all of this, you are still not satisfied and feel that you're being gypped or have some other complaint about anything you buy Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada advises that you send a letter off to one of the many voluntary, provincial or federal consumer agencies across Canada or to your local consumer rights columnist or commentator. (Consult your telephone directory for the offices of Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada under "Government of Canada." There is an office in Toronto.)

India-Canada Day in Sudbury

Sudbury - Unity in Variety was the theme of a two day seminar organised by the India Canada Association of Sudbury on August 14 and 15 at the Sudbury Secondary School. During his welcome speech on 14th the President Professor P. Viswanathan explained the objectives of the Association as "Creating harmony among human kind through cultural interaction." He said that the seminar was a move towards that direction wherein people of diverse ethnic groups were meeting together on a common platform to examine the ways and means of evolving a United Canada with all the varieties that has created this country.

The welcome speech was followed by a traditional welcome to the Mayor Maurice Lamoureux, Dr. J.W.E. Newbery, the keynote speaker, the Councillor Sterling Campbell. As is the custom in India the three dignitaries were received with garlands made of fresh flowers by three attractive Indian ladies dressed in colourful sarees. The opening ceremonies took the form of the lighting of a traditional Indian lamp by Mayor Maurice Lamoureux for the city and Councillor Sterling Campbell for region. The singing of 'O Canada' marked the end of the formal function.

Dr. Newbery in his keynote address discussed the common factors between these two great democracies India and Canada. He concluded his speech with an appeal to develop reverence for life, a common intention for truthful freedom and discipline and a common celebration for the variety that makes our national communities challenging and beautiful. He pleaded that sectarian rivalries and material obsessions be left behind.

The remaining part of the evening was taken up with a program of entertainment drawn from different parts of India as well as other countries. The programs concluded with a reception.

The workshop on the 15th chaired by M. Chakravarty, was a follow-up of the keynote address and was attended by people of several ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

The intellectual environments of the morning was given a different turn when a sumptuous East Indian dinner was served to the participants at 1 p.m.

Devajit Chakravarty summarised the proceedings of the workshop as follows during the plenary session.

"The discussion focussed on the similarities of the multicultural Indian and Canadian societies; it recognised that an effort must be made for a functional unity in an ethnically diverse society.

The recommendations of the seminar were the following:

First, one consensus of the seminar was an appreciative recognition of the actions of the Canadian Government to enshrine in the patriated constitution of Canada a charter of human rights. This step was recognised as an important basis for Canadian unity and as a means of ensuring the acceptance of newcomers into the Canadian mosaic. It was further urged that the mosaic pattern be maintained as Canadian policy.

Second, Canada is a multicultural nation, not simply a bi-cultural one, thus policy should be tailored, so as to assimilate all of the ethnic cultures into the Canadian society, while at the same time maintaining their different identities. This can be achieved by starting to educate the school children at the primary levels, about the values of all the ethnic cultures in Canada instead of only two. Also, the public should be made aware of the various cultures and languages by massive free time media exposures.

Third, the hiring by the civil service of persons of different ethnic origins, in positions of public contact such as: courts, customs and immigration, post office, etc. should be based on a new system of equal opportunity, where the various minority groups may have the right of fair representation.

Fourth and finally, the seminar recognised that in order for a group of widely varying origins to come together in a unified spectrum, the different groups must be shown a common goal for which to work towards. This goal must be presented and maintained as a government policy so as to achieve Canada's social objective, that of, Unity in Variety."

The evening of fifteenth saw the presentation of 'Bharathanatyam' the classical dance of South India by a group from Ottawa. Natyanjali as the group is called, has the reputation of presenting dance and plays to packed audiences all over North America. 'Chandalika' a representation of a play by Rabindranath Tagore somewhat similar to contemporary Western Ballet, was presented with grace and elegance by the group. This was again followed by a reception.

An exhibition of Indian arts and artifacts decorated the hallway of the building.

As the day ended one participant was heard to whisper "The weekend has been hectic but the intellectual stimulation and the colour and entertainment and the delicious food has made this unique experience worthwhile. We hope we would have more programs of this type in Sudbury in future."

Walk-a-thon in Ottawa

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Anyone interested in participating as a walker or as a sponsor, or for further information, please call Satya Bhatnagar at 825-2071.

RECORD OUTPUT OF VEHICLES

Bombay, [UNI] - India had 9.8 million vehicles at the end of 1980, according to engineering industry sources.

This number comprised 800,000 cars, 127,000 jeeps, 145,000 buses and 468,000 trucks. Besides, India has 1.7 million two wheelers, 122,000 three-wheelers, 578,000 tractors and over 33,000 other units plying on its roads.

Mukul elects committee

Mukul of Ottawa elected new Management Committee for the year 1981-82 at the annual meeting held on August 9, 1981. Composition of the new Committee is as follows:

Dr. M.P. Singh - Chairman
S. Gera,
Dr. K.G. Gupta
Mrs. Y. Humar and
Mrs. T. Patni.
In addition, **Dr. R.L. Singhal** (Ex-officio) and
Mrs. V. Sharma - Principal - will continue on the committee.

Hindi Language and Indican Culture classes will be held as usual on every Saturday from 10:30 to 1:00 p.m. starting September 12.

This year classes will be held at Ecole Secondaire CHARLBOIS at 2525 Alta Vista Drive at Heron Road.

Furthet, due to heavy pre-registration, Mukul is looking for at least one additional qualified teacher to teach Cultural classes on a regular basis. Additional information about registration and/or staffing may be obtained by calling 592-5983 or 824-6858.

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NEW EXECUTIVE - Sitting, Left to Right; Yasmin Khan - Secretary, Usha Amin - Treasurer, Rita Khan - Member-at-large. Standing, Left to Right; Narinder Srivastava - Member-at-large, Ram Sharma - President, Sushil Bajpai - Vice-President, Lakhbir Sodhi - Past President.

WHY WORRY?

There are only two things to worry about;
Either you are well or you are sick.

If you are well, then there is nothing to worry about;
But if you are sick, there are two things to worry about;
Either you get well, or you will die.

If you get well, there is nothing to worry about.
If you die, there are only two things to worry about;
Either you will go to heaven or hell.

If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about.
But if you go to hell, you'll be so darn busy shaking hands with friends, you won't have time to worry.

Anonymous.

Independence Day in Nova Scotia

By Mukhtyar S. Tomar

Seaton Centre, Mount St. Vincent University was the venue for the celebration of India's 34th Independence Day and Shravani by the East Indian community of Nova Scotia. It was organized by the Indo-Canadian Association of Nova Scotia.

The program started at 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 15, with a "Welcome Dance" by talented newcomer Jyoti Popat of Bridgewater, which included the daring feat of holding two oil lamps in both hands.

A Punjabi group song by the students, guitar by Dr. N. DeSilva, gazals by Shirish Agnihotri and Dr. V. Bhardwaj, flute by Kuldeep Singh, were some of the impressive items. Rashid Ansari stole the show with his mono-impressions of a "girls' cricket game" played in Calcutta, and then by his rendition of "Meri Apni Kahani", on his trip to Bombay to become a film-hero. He also played two film-tunes on the mouth organ. Just before intermission, the "RAAS", a Gujrati folk-dance, performed by a group of students in colorful costumes highlighted the first half of the concert.

Randev Pandit, an artist visiting from India, played two very beautiful classical tunes on Sarod. Local 'master tabla player' Raju Bhatt accompanied Mr. Pandit to add superbness to the item.

Mrs. Pushpa Bhargava and Mrs. Savita Hajela played dholak and harmonium, respectively, for most of the items.

The program was organized by the Hajela family: Dr. R.P. Hajela, Secretary of INCA; Mrs. Hajela, an all-round artist; and their two children, Rani and Raju, program co-ordinators.

Dr. R.P. Gupta, President of INCA, in welcoming the audience asked for their participation in all walks of life of the Canadian society, and requested non-members to take membership in INCA and lend support for the work he and his executive had been entrusted with.

Hilroy Fellowship

By Dick Lochan
Our Toronto Representative

University of Toronto's new alumnus Ahmed Ijaz has been awarded a Hilroy Fellowship Certificate, which is presented annually to teachers who have demonstrated initiative in developing new ideas for the improvement of teaching practices.

His doctoral thesis in Applied Psychology included a study of racial attitudes of elementary school children in four Scarborough schools. The studies found that white students rated all other ethnic groups much more negatively than their own, while black and East-Indian children perceived their own ethnic groups as being less acceptable than whites.

Ahmed proved that when a program involving facets of East Indian culture was introduced to children in the four schools, their attitudes towards that ethnic group became significantly more positive.

His study was commended by the Toronto Star and Globe and Mail Newspapers and singled out for the Hilroy.

JEST FOR FUN

1. A young girl to fireman. "It must have taken a lot of courage to rescue me as you did."

Fireman: Yes, I had to knock down four other guys who wanted to do it.

2. "My sister does fancy work"

"And what do you do?"

"Oh, I don't fancy work."

3. A young lady teacher in Grade VIII grammer class

Teacher: What tense is this? "I am beautiful!"

Student? "Past"

4. Sympathiser

Are you taking Allopath, Homoeopath or Osteopath treatment?

Patient? What difference does it make what treatment I take when all paths lead to the grave.

[Samachar, Saskatchewan]

Girl allowed to stay

By Thomal Panakal

Montreal: An eleven-year-old girl may be able to stay in Canada, at last.

According to immigration officials the Indian girl will be permitted to stay in Montreal if the family is telling the truth about her. The federal cabinet, officials point out, is expected to review the case.

Dharmishtaben Patel came to Canada nine months ago to visit her uncle and aunt who later decided to adopt her. The immigration department informed the relatives that the girl would have to return to her native Bombay and apply for immigrant status from India.

Jayanthilal Patel, the girl's uncle, said that his niece could lead a better life with him. The girl lived in a village near Bombay with her parents and four sisters.

The girl's father is a school teacher who does not oppose adoption by the relatives. A social service agency has investigated the case.

A machinist by profession, Jayanthilal Patel, came to Canada in 1972. The provincial youth court has finalised adoption on April 27.

The officials study childrens' cases with great care to determine if they are properly removed from their parents and if there has been any enticing.

SENIORS...
ONTARIO PROPERTY TAX GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Last year Ontario replaced its system of Tax Credits for seniors with a new program of Property and Sales Tax Grants to help offset municipal, school and retail sales taxes. The Property Tax Grant of up to $500 per household is provided in two installments annually. The Sales Tax Grant is an automatic $50 paid each year to all Ontario residents 65 and over.

PROPERTY TAX GRANTS

APPLICATIONS

The 1980 Property Tax Grant was paid to recipients in one payment. In 1981, the Grant is being paid in two installments. The first payment, sent automatically in the spring, was equal to one-half the amount of your 1980 Grant.

To qualify for the final installment you **must** submit an application to the Ministry of Revenue.

If you receive the federal Old Age Security pension, and are eligible, you will receive this application for your Property Tax Grant during the **first half of September, 1981.** Those who reach the age of 65 between now and December will receive their applications early in 1982.

Seniors who are not eligible for federal Old Age Security payments, but who have previously established eligibility for the Property Tax Grant will also receive an application.

The Ministry of Revenue is mailing applications only to those seniors who are thought to be eligible. If you do not receive an application by September 21 and feel you qualify, please contact our toll-free Information Centre.

ELIGIBILITY

If you're 65 or over and own or rent your home you're eligible for the Property Tax Grant of up to $500.

If you rent your grant will total 20% of your rent or $500, whichever is less.

If you own your principal residence your grant will equal the amount of your property taxes or $500, whichever is less.

If you are married and reside with your spouse or if you share accommodation with someone over 65, only one grant will be paid per household.

If you share your home with anyone over 65 other than your spouse, the grant will be apportioned according to rent or property tax paid.

Take care to complete your application form accurately!

Take a few extra minutes to fill out your application; and then check it again for accuracy. This makes it much easier for the Ministry to process your form and get your cheque to you.

Cheques will be mailed beginning the latter part of October.

EXCEPTIONS

If you reside in a nursing home, a home for the aged or similar institution, you're not eligible for the Property Tax Grant unless you pay for the full cost of your care and the institution pays municipal and school taxes.

If you reside in a tax-exempt property, you are not eligible.

However, if you move into a tax-exempt property or a nursing home, home for the aged or similar institution during 1981, you are eligible for a Property Tax Grant based on your occupancy costs prior to your move.

If you moved permanently to Ontario during 1981, your Property Tax Grant is based on the time you resided in Ontario.

SALES TAX GRANTS

The $50 Sales Tax Grant cheques will be distributed automatically to all Ontario seniors in October.

TOLL-FREE INFORMATION

In Metro Toronto, dial 965-8470
In Area Code 807, ask the Operator for Zenith 6-2000
In all other areas, dial 1-800-268-7121

Ontario Ministry of Revenue

George Ashe
Minister

T.M. Russell
Deputy Minister

ONTARIO TAX GRANTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Indian cho in Toronto

Kashmir Singh 18, Malkiat Singh Bhatha, 28, of Toronto and Jasbir Singh, 21 of Burlington surrendered to Metro Police in Toronto on Friday, 21st August, and were charged with wounding a man in the Dixon Road area. Gurmit Kahlon, 26, the victim, was free on bail on an attempted murder charge in the shooting of Balwant Singh last May as he walked toward Woodbine racetract.

Kahlon was attacked in his apartment lobby on Wed-

More po Rights C

Dr. Harish Jain, of McMaster University's Personnel & Industrial Relations Area in the Faculty of Business, has called for powers to be given to the Ontario Human Rights Commission which would allow the commission to undertake "strategic investigation" to identify and deal with indirect racial discrimination that may exist in the staffing policies and practices of industries, firms and institutions. Dr. Jain, who is also chairman of the McMaster Senate's Human Rights Committee, was testifying before the Ontario government's Standing Committee on Resources Development, which is holding hearings in Toronto on the Ontario Human Rights Code 1981.

Borrowing the term from the British Race Relations Act of 1976, Dr. Jain said the OHRC should be given the strategic investigation power to collect background information necessary to carry out any special plan or affirmative action program. He referred also to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the United States which, through industrywide investigations possible under its mandate, has helped to bring about agreements among large industries such as the steel industry that have brought several hundred million dollars in wage increases, training and promotion of minorities on a plant-wide basis.

Bill 7 --- The Ontario Human Rights Code under consideration---Dr. Jain said, fails to authorize the Commission explicitly to undertake such strategic investigation in order to identify and deal with indirect discrimination by firms or institutions. He defined such indirect discrimination as staffing practices which are neutral on their face but have an adverse impact on minorities.

The OHRC, he continued, however, should not be prohibited from assisting and representing individual complainants in such cases as it has b een doing in the past.

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Kahlon was attacked in his apartment lobby on Wednesday morning and also as he ran shouting for help. He received in all 50 stitches on cuts to the head and body.

The three, who turned themselves in with their lawyer, would have to appear later in provincial court for a show-cause bail hearing.

This is the latest of incidents to be reported as to rwalry which exists amongst the East Indian faction in Toronto.

Dick Lochan.

The Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, with Adivasi women folk dancers during her recent visit to Rae Bareli in U.P.

More powers for Human Rights Commission urged

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Dr. Jain also suggested to the committee that a change should be made in the code to allow employers and employment agencies to keep records concerning the race, creed, color, nationality, ancestry or place of origin of applicants for employment. The present code prohibits this, he said, but in order to carry out strategic investigations or even routine audits the commission should be able to grant exemptions to this provision.

Creation of a race relations bureau along the lines of the Ontario Women's Bureau was an additional suggestion. Such a bureau, Dr. Jain felt, should deal with community relations and education, and could help ease racial and ethnic tensions at the community level.

There is evidence, he said, to indicate that racial discrimination in employment is the most prevalent form of discrimination in Ontario, with more than half of all the employment-related formal cases reported in the annual reports of the OHRC from 1978 to 1980 related to racial discrimination in the workplace.

In some other areas, Dr. Jain recommended that, since an individual's age is a prohibited ground of discrimination in Bill 7, the definition of age should be changed from "between 18 and 65 years" to 18 years and over. A flexible rather than a mandatory retirement policy would permit workers freedom and the opportunity to decide for themselves at what age to retire, he maintained. Administrative and managerial convenience should not be a bar to an older citizen's right to work.

Cultural centre in Montreal

By Thomal Panakal

Montreal: Honorable Gerald Godin, Minister of Immigration in the province of Qubec, has promised a cultural center in a speech to the India-Canada Association of Montreal.

The minister was addressing a meeting of the 34th anniversary of India's independence day.

Honorable Godin praised the activities of the association. The cultural center will be built in cooperation with NACOI.

J. Jacob, the Deputy High Commissioner of India, also attended the annual function.

The celebrations included Indian classical and instrumental music, Quebec folk dance and Egyptian dance. Various dance forms gave the function a multicultural character.

Vijay Amritraj, who was playing tennis in Montreal recently also attended the independence day celebrations. The well-known Indian athlete, who defeated John McInroe in the Canadian open, pointed out that he was delighted to attend the celebrations.

The tennis player was presented with six silver wine cups with his name engraved on them.

More than 500 persons attended the functions held at Schofield Hall.

India-Canada Association plans to celebrate children's day on November 14.

For visitors only

Canada Immigration advises that if your plans should change and you decide to stay in Canada longer than authorized, an extension may be granted only on the condition that you apply at one of their local offices before the end of your authorized stay. After expiry, nothing can be done-your visit cannot be extended and you will have to leave the country.

For visitors who hold valid authorizations to work and/or study in Canada, before they change jobs or courses of study, permission must be requested from an immigration officer.

Finally, visitors cannot apply to immigrate while in the country. This must be done from outside of Canada.

ENJOY YOUR STAY!

MAY IT BE A PLEASANT ONE!

Dick Locham
Toronto.

Indo-Canadians get research funds

Toronto, - The Ministry of Health has awarded several thousand dollars for health research projects. Some of the recipients are Indo-Canadian researchers. Among them are: Dr. R.S. Gupta of McMaster University in Hamilton who receives $48,000 to work on environmental mutogens, Dr. M. Pai of Weston Ontario who will work on hemophiliacs ($57,000), Dr. K. Sarkar of Carleton University to develop a battery used in hearing losses ($18,000), Dr. R.C. Nair of Ottawa University to work on sanitary conditions of eating establishments ($36,000). Dr. S.A. Sattar of the same university to examine sewage - polluted water ($50,000), Dr. T. Subrahmanyan of Toronto ($30,000), and Dr. K.N. Jeejeebhoy of University of Toronto to study intravenous feeding ($67,000).

WORLD BANK AID FOR INDIAN STATE

New Delhi, [UNI] - The World Bank has agreed to give a credit of 80 million dollars to India to help implement a 172-million-dollar water supply and sewerage project in the western desert state of Rajasthan.

See Page 11

COMPLIMENTARY COPY?

Do you have a friend who will enjoy reading The Canadian India Times? Would you like us to send him/her a complimentary copy?

Please send us your friend's name and address. We will promptly mail a copy.

Write to: The Canadian India Times
405 Catherine St,
OTTAWA Ont. K1R 5T6

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Uranium in Central India

Calcutta, [UNI] - Scientists of the Atomic Mineral Division (AMD) have struck uranium at the little known Darba area in Bastar district of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. With this, one more area has been added to the country's atomic mineral map.

The discovery of the mineral, needed for the nuclear power program, has been described as "Significant" by official sources here.

The department of Atomic Energy had undertaken drilling in Darba to assess the concentration of uranium.

This apart, AMD had established by surface exploration an inferred reserve of uranium in the Bondal area of Rajnandgaon district of Madhya Pradesh.

The reserve, spread over about 1,250 metres of strike length and up to a vertical depth of 250 metres, was estimated at 1,956 tonnes with 0.067 per cent of uranium. Exploratory drilling in the area was in progress.

Extension surveys near the Chirho area of Bastar district in Madhya Pradesh had also revealed radioactivity intermittently. AMD had also found a radioactivity at Khulguda in South Manara district of the south Indian state of Karnataka.

India-U.S. Business Council publication

U.S.-India Enterprises has published a special souvenir on the activities and deliberations of the India-U.S. Business Council - the trade body comprising leading businessmen and industrialists from India and the United States--meeting in Washington, D.C. and India's economic progress.

The souvenir publication, edited by Hasmukh Shah, contains articles by leading Indian and American businessmen and industrialists on various aspects of Indo-U.S. trade and investment. Among the contributors are Dr. Bharat Ram, Arvind Narottzn Lalbhai, Hari Shankar Singhania, Kantikumar R. Podar, Prakash Shah, Dr. Freddie F. Mehta, Orville Freeman, Marvin S. Traub and others.

The peolication also covers in-depth report on the seminar, held in Hotel Plaza in New York City, on the subject of "Indo-U.S. Business Opportunities in the '80's." The speakers at the seminar, held under the auspices of India Chamber of Commerce of America, Inc., included experts in the field of Indo-U.S. trade and investment. The subjects covered included: "India in the '80's," "How to do Business with India: Union Carbide's Experience;" India's Investment And Trading Policies and Prospects," "Doing Business with India-Successful Ventures" and "Facilities available to the U.S. Company."

The souvenir publication has been well-received both by the American and Indian business community. India's Ambassador to the United States K.R. Narayanan has described it as "an attractive and extremely useful souvenir."

Those interested in Indo-U.S. economic and commercial relations--such as export-import trade, investment possibilities and collaborations and business opportunities in India--will find this publication quite informative.

Copies of this important souvenir publication are available at $5.00 per copy plus 40 cents for postage. Cheque or money order should be sent to U.S.-India Enterprises, P.O. Box 10175, Towson, Maryland 21204.

Rain promises paddy

By T.V. Satyanarayanan

Ludhiana, Punjab, [UNI] - Surjan Singh raised his hands skyward, thanked the rain god for the generous wet spell, called out his three sons and headed for the farm. The foursome stood in ankle-deep water, plucking paddy seedlings one by one and transplanting them in rows.

Like Surjan Singh, who owns a small farm in a village near Ludhiana in the northwestern border state of Punjab, thousands of farmers and their families in different parts of India have completed paddy transplantation.

Today the countryside looks a vast carpet of green.

The widespread rains augur well for the rice crop which will be ripe in autumn.

India has set a target of 83 million tonnes of foodgrain for the autumn harvest which in the farmer's vocabulary is called Kharif.

The overall foodgrain target for 1981-82 is 138.5 million tonnes, including 55.5 million tonnes for the summer harvest of which wheat is the staple crop.

Engg. goods export

New Delhi, [UNI] - India will increase export engineering goods to the countries of the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

The Indian Engineering Export Promotion Council has drawn up a strategy to achieve a ten-fold increase in the export of engineering goods.

The strategy committee of the council has finalised an action program whose important feature is identification of a few countries where concentration thrust was proposed to be given.

The countries identified are Saudi Arabia, Libya, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Malaysia, Indonesia, USA, Federal Republic of Germany, France and Sri Lanka.

Hinduization of Christianity

Professor V. Subramaniam

A Sahitya Akademi award for Professor Devassia's recent publication **Kristhu Bhagavatham** in Sanskrit is an important landmark in the progressive Hinduization of Christianity in India. By itself, the book sets out to retell the gospel story in Indian epic style with all the appurtenances of an epic and the sonorous elegance of Sanskrit verse. Its poetic and scholarly quality is commended by Dr. V. Raghavan as well as Professor Kunhan Rajah, and I have found those protions I read through of very high quality.

In one sense, this achievement is more important than the more publicized rendering of the gospels into Tamil verse by poet Kannadasan. Traditionally, Christian missionaries have sought to translate the gospel into local languages and in Tamil there is a tradition of missionaries relying on leading Hindu scholars rather than on Christians. The Tamil version of the Bible is still based on Arumuga Navalar's translation and Navalar was the most indefatigable Saivite anti-Christian propagandist. Kannadasan himself confessed that his 'Kannan' does not usually permit him to sing about Gods and prophets of other religions, but he did so in the case of the gospels because Christ was close enough to Krishna.

Taking the gospel into a people's language is missionary propaganda; putting it into verse is partly accepting the culture of an essentially Hindu idiom but singing it in Sanskrit verse in epic style is Hinduistic legitimization and Sanskritization, substantially different from the localization or indigenization of Christianity which the Roman Catholic church has practiced for a few centuries in the interests of spreading the gospel. Thus Jesuits were prepared to kow tow to the Son of Heaven in Peking for a period and papal permission was obtained to work within Hindu caste restrictions. The earliest Catholic missionaries such as De Nobili and Beschi, dressed and behaved alarmingly like high caste Hindus. But Protestant churches were always in two minds about such concessions as the chequered history of the "trousered church" of Vadakkankulam demonstrates. The church was divided like the two legs of a pair of trousers to accommodate separately a higher and a lower caste till an adamant and conscientious priest razed the intervening wall to the ground.

Another earlier phenomenon was the borrowing of Christian weapons by Hindu reformist missionaries like Rajah Ram Mohan Roy or even Dayananda Saraswati. Here too, a line had to be drawn. When Christian borrowing went too far as to dilute the Hindu base, it was resented and kept at arm's length, as in the case of Keshub Chander Sen's "New Dispensation" or Brahma Bandhab Upadhyaya's Hinduized Catholicism.

What is happening now is a new interpenetration mostly acceptable to reformist Hinduism, even if suspect to conservative Hindus. Jesudoss's Bhagavadgita recitations and devotion to Carnatic music and to the Guruvayoor deity are in the same cultural Hinduization category as Kristhu Bagavatham, the proposed Kristhu Sahasranamam and the adoption of the Ochre robe by several Christian priests in Kerala. It is going deeper than the preservation of several Hindu marriage customs by South Indian Christians. This cultural Hinduization is best described in the words of C. Rajagopalachari: "Just as there are Saivite Hindus and Vaishnavite Hindus, there are Christian Hindus also."

Indian pioneers in Muslim world

New Delhi, [UNI] - Indian scholars were the first to establish religious and educational institutions in Saudi Arabia and some parts of Central Asia, including Tashkent, Samarkand and Tataria.

According to Ghazi Hamidul Ansari, Secretary-General of the 15th Century Hijri Celebration Committee, it was Maulana Ishaq Amritsari, a great theologian, who established Madrasaul Falah (School For Moral and Ethical Education) in Mecca in 1895.

Maulana Ishaq, who graduated from Darul Uloom, Deoband, and taught there for a brief period, migrated to Mecca in 1890.

He was followed by another Indian scholar, Syed Ahmed Faizabadi, who went to Medina and set up Shiriat School (School of Prophet's Teachings) there in the beginning of the 20th century.

Before their arrival in Saudi Arabia, there was no school in the kingdom and the teachers used to deliver sermons and lectures in the Mosques.

With the arrival of Indian scholars in Middle East countries, a chain of educational and religious institutions was set up in the region, heralding an era of educational development.

Cards favourite pastime

By Suhas Agashe

New Delhi, [UNI] - Playing cards is a favourite pastime for millions of people in metropolitan India.

People play cards in crowded suburban trains, in street corners, while squatting in public parks, in social clubs, in well-established gymkhanas, in office recreation rooms and at home. Playing cards is almost a mania for the urban Indian.

This fetish has boosted the production of the card manufacturing industry in the country. The main industrial base for the manufacture of cards is in the western State of Maharashtra. There are ten reputed units engaged in manufacturing cards in Bombay alone. The industry fetches nearly 12.5 million dollars in the form of revenue for the country by printing more than seven million packs a year.

Earlier, India used to import raw material, but now due to the pioneering work done in this field in Maharashtra, the country does not look to other nations for raw materials.

In Bombay, there are social clubs and syndicates which spend up to 125,000 dollars for their annual requirement of playing cards.

Hockey in poor shape

Chandigarh, [UNI] - Indian hockey, once on top of the world, is in an uncertain position today, with the probables for the national team for the European tour and the World Cup in Bombay this year demonstrably weak in various aspects of the game.

Sports officials looking after the selection of the Indian team said the players were not up to the mark in goal-keeping, conversion and defense of short corners.

What is causing concern is the "vulnerable" half-line, for which the camp officials are experimenting on different combinations, besides imparting various skills.

"We are doing all we can to remove the shortcomings," said former Olympian Harmik Singh, one of the coaches. Asked to spell out what the drawbacks were, he quipped: "See it for yourself."

Bird needs protection

Bhubaneswar, [UNI] - The Indian Hill Mynah - talking bird and something of a linguist - is becoming a popular household pet the world over.

Considered the world's top mimic bird (a position it snatched from the Zebra Finch and the Budrigars), each Hill Mynah, today fetches twenty shillings in the world at pet markets, collectively proving to be quite a foreign exchange earner for India. About 4,000 birdlings are exported from the eastern state of Orissa alone.

The Hill Mynah is silken black in colour with its yellow beak and golden earlobes stretching down its neck like a necklace.

KITCHEN

BARBECUE IN THE OVEN

Barbecue grills have gained during the last few years. Gril backyards and porches. After likes to get back to nature and food that comes from the grill. most portable and popular met gas and electric grills have gain

That special barbecue flavor co falling onto the heat source, smoke which rises to blend with While North America may be cr super cookout, barbecuing ha popular methods of cooking thr instance Shashlik is the Caucasi skewers. It is a favorite Russia sold on the village streets. Ta and oldest method of barbecue from the Tandoor or clay oven i It is shaped like one of Ali Baba hot charcoal within and is bu threaded on a long greased skew onto the oven to barbecue.

Even if you don't own one of t despair. Try my version of chick Too often, people are not will Originally I tried quartering a creating four servings. Howev section of a quartered chicken legs and thighs in one piece. If a little more, then try my Comi elegant dish for a party with ver prepare this dish. I will offer next issue to complete a meal friends.

Devilled Chicken Barbecue

8 whole large chicken legs (dru
1 tsp. turmeric and 1 tsp. papr
4 cloves of garlic, minced
1 tbsp. grated fresh ginger roo
2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
½ tsp. chili powder
½ cup sour cream and 3 tbsp.

Topping:

1 cup finely chopped green on
4 tbsp. finely chopped coriand
2 to 4 cloves of garlic, minced
2 tbsp. olive oil or ghee (not b
½ tsp. dried red peppers (cru
Garnish:$

Lemon slices, lettuce leaves, f
green pepper or red pepper.

Combine sour cream, ginger, paprika, oil, turmeric and ga Skin the chicken, then make sli and drumsticks, to allow spic Dry the pieces well with pape mixture all over the chicken, e and marinate for at least 4 hou overnight. Remove chicken hour before cooking. Add so mix well. Preheat over to 3 broiler pan. Line the pan, not cleaning. Place the chicken o for 20 minutes, baste with continue baking and basting minutes depending on the siz marinating. The longer you m take to bake.

Meanwhile combine onion, or ghee and crushed red pep Switch on the broiler and set meat is about six inches from spread the onion mixture (c cooked chicken (meaty side) under the broiler and brown carefull not to burn. Transf heated serving plate lined w the pan juices all over the c slices, green chili or corian lately. Makes 8 servings.

Hospital for Nargis

Bombay, [UNI] - The renowned Tata Cancer Memorial Centre here plans to set up a Critical Care Unit named after Indian film star Nargis Dutt who died of this dreaded disease on May 3 this year.

The Unit will treat patients who have undergone exten-

KITCHEN KORNER

BARBECUE IN THE OVEN

Barbecue grills have gained tremendous popularity during the last few years. Grills can be found in most backyards and porches. After a long winter, everyone likes to get back to nature and enjoy the smoky, crispy food that comes from the grill. Although charcoal is the most portable and popular method of outdoor cooking, gas and electric grills have gained popularity.

That special barbecue flavor comes from meat drippings falling onto the heat source, creating meat-flavored smoke which rises to blend with the natural meat flavor. While North America may be credited as the home of the super cookout, barbecuing has been one of the more popular methods of cooking throughout the world. For instance Shaslik is the Caucasian name for cooking on skewers. It is a favorite Russian picnic food that is also sold on the village streets. Tandoori, the most popular and oldest method of barbecue in India takes its name from the Tandoor or clay oven in which it is cooked. It is shaped like one of Ali Baba's jars and is heated with hot charcoal within and is buried in earth. Meat is threaded on a long greased skewer which is then lowered onto the oven to barbecue.

Even if you don't own one of these equipments, do not despair. Try my version of chicken barbecue in the oven. Too often, people are not willing to try the unusual. Originally I tried quartering a chicken with the idea of creating four servings. However, I don't like the back section of a quartered chicken and so I use instead the legs and thighs in one piece. If you don't mind spending a little more, then try my Cornish hen barbecue. It is an elegant dish for a party with very little work to be done to prepare this dish. I will offer a few more recipes in the next issue to complete a meal for a family or a group of friends.

Devilled Chicken Barbecue

8 whole large chicken legs (drumstick and thigh together)
1 tsp. turmeric and 1 tsp. paprika
4 cloves of garlic, minced
1 tbsp. grated fresh ginger root
2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
½ tsp. chili powder
1 cup sour cream and 3 tbsp. oil

Topping:

¼ cup finely chopped green onion (white part only)
4 tbsp. finely chopped coriander leaves or parsley
2 to 4 cloves of garlic, minced
2 tbsp. olive oil or ghee (not butter)
½ tsp. dried red peppers (crushed)
Garnish:

Lemon slices, lettuce leaves, fresh green chili or strips of green pepper or red pepper.

Combine sour cream, ginger, lemon juice, chili powder, paprika, oil, turmeric and garlic in a large glass dish. Skin the chicken, then make slits in the flesh of the thighs and drumsticks, to allow spices to penetrate.

Dry the pieces well with paper towels, then rub the spice mixture all over the chicken, especially in the slits. Cover and marinate for at least 4 hours or preferably refrigerate overnight. Remove chicken from refrigerator about 1 hour before cooking. Add some salt to the chicken and mix well. Preheat over to 375F. Grease one rack on a broiler pan. Line the pan, not the rack, with foil for easier cleaning. Place the chicken on the greased rack and bake for 20 minutes, baste with remaining marinate and continue baking and basting until tender, about 40 to 45 minutes depending on the size of chicken and the time of marinating. The longer you marinate, the less time it will take to bake.

Meanwhile combine onion, coriander leaves, garlic, oil or ghee and crushed red pepper for topping in a bowl. Switch on the broiler and set your oven rack so that the meat is about six inches from the heat source. Carefully spread the onion mixture (coarse paste) over the top of cooked chicken (meaty side) patting it into place. Place it under the broiler and brown the coating layer watching carefull not to burn. Transfer the pieces of chicken to a heated serving plate lined with lettuce leaves, and spoon the pan juices all over the chicken. Garnish with lemon slices, green chili or coriander leaves. Serve immediately. Makes 8 servings.

Hospital named for Nargis

Bombay, [UNI] - The renowned Tata Cancer Memorial Centre here plans to set up a Critical Care Unit named after Indian film star Nargis Dutt who died of this dreaded disease on May 3 this year.

The Unit will treat patients who have undergone extensive surgery and complicated radiation therapy and whose clinical condition results in fall in blood level and metabolical complications.

Chairman of the centre, Dr. H.N. Sethna, said the proposed unit will be equipped with sophisticated technology similar to that used in the United States, where Mrs. Dutt underwent treatment for over six months.

Gold medalist

Lalitha Mathai was awarded the gold medal and a scholarship for the highest academic achievement. She was also the only student to graduate in first honours this year from Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School in Montreal. For this she received another award.

SOUTHERN INDIAN STATE EXPORTING RICE TO RUSSIA

New Delhi, [UNI] - The Southern State of Andhra Pradesh will export 90,000 tonnes of rice to the Soviet Union during the current financial year.

Managing Director of the Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation, T.S.N. Swamy, told reporters on Sunday that both coarse and fine rice would be exported.

The corporation last year exported vegetables worth 2.5 million dollars to the Gulf countries.

Vija Amritraj was honored on India's Independence Day Celebrations. The tennis player is seen addressing the audience.

Indian artist in Moncton

By Atul Sharma

Moncton - Moncton, recently, was honoured with the presence of a top Indian artist, Mrs. Lalith J. Rao. Mrs. Rao is currently touring Canada and the United States. In Moncton, Mrs. Rao gave a stunning musical performance. It was enjoyed by all who attended.

Mrs. Rao is considered to be amongst the Top Five classical vocalist, in India. Prior to arriving in North America, she held a concert in Paris and in London.

In San Francisco, 90 per cent of the audience were Americans. She must also return there for a repeat performance. In Fredericton, she was also thoroughly appreciated.

Her accompanists across Canada and U.S.A. are her husband, N. Jayavanth Rao, on harmonium, and Jayawant D. Bantwal, on Tabala. Mrs. Rao has a regular set of musicians in Bombay.

Mrs. Rao's interest in classical music started at the age of nine. She used to sing and play the Sitar merely as a hobby. She gave it up while she was studying at the University of New Brunswick. She received an M.Sc.E., in electrical engineering.

After graduating in 1967, she took up the art again. From 1970, she was being taught by Ustad Khadim Husain Khan. From that time onwards, she has been singing professionally.

Mrs. Rao stated, that she felt that, "records are not necessary." The way people know of her is through word-of-mouth. It seems that the idea of the word-of-mouth advertising is working well.

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Professional engineer with MBA, in management position, well travelled, fluent in French and German, 38, fair, attractive, slim and athletic, originally from the South, wishes to meet attractive, educated girl. Please send details with returnable photo to M-1799, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for self employed young man, 29, Canadian citizen, settled in Toronto. Caste no bar. Evening (416)-270-0398.

Wanted a suitable girl for a cultured and handsome doctor, 25, in North India. Girl's merits main consideration. Also wanted a suitable match for a beautiful and talented, registered nurse, 31, in North India. No bars. Write, with details, to M-1800, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from Bengali professionals for attractive woman, 32, 5'-4½", B.Sc. Bed. computer programmer, fluent in English, presently visiting Canada. M-1801, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a young man, 24, visiting Canada at present. Height 5'-11". B.Sc. Dairy Technology from India. Relatives well settled in Canada. M-1802, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for professional Panjabi Khatri divorced boy, 36, 5'-8". Well settled in Chicago (U.S.) for 14 years. Brother settled in Canada. Girl's merits main consideration. Write full details with phone to P.O. Box 2082, Bramalea, Ontario L6T 3S3 Canada or phone (416) 451-6296.

Suitable match for a Panjabi girl, M.A. Economics, height 5'-4", visiting Canada in first week of September. Three borthers settled in Canada. Interested parties call (519)-681-5684 or 681-6196.

Suitable match for a pretty Hindu girl from Delhi. Well educated, talented and proficient in Indian classical music. Presently in Montreal for visit. U.S./Canadian citizens or immigrants need apply. Boy's merits main consideration. Write to Post Box 463, Beaconsfield, Quebec, H9W 5V1.

Suitable match for a graduate Jat Sikh boy, 25 years, 5'-11". Caste no bar. Canadian citizen American citizen or immigrants need apply. Write to A. Singh, P.O. Box 7, Stoney Creek, Ontario.

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New Delhi [UNI] - India has the largest thorium resources in the world.

The thorium resources are estimated to be about 363,000 tonnes.

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Thorium can be converted into an important atomic fuel.

A survey carried out by the Department of Atomic Energy revealed that there are a large number of radioactive mineral deposits in the country.

The country's total uranium reserves are estimated at about 53,000 tonnes, consisting of 30,000 tonnes as reasonably assured resources and 23,000 tonnes as estimated additional resources. Additional uranium in the monazite beach sand deposits is estimated at about 13,000 tonnes.

The investigations for uranium conducted so far have indicated that almost all major deposits are located in the peninsular area.

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